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ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2141	

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

	Application No.	**Applicant(s)**
Office Action Summary	09/597,146	KADOMATSU, DAIKI
	Examiner	**Art Unit**
	April L Baugh	2141

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL.**   2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-3,5-9,11-14,16-19,21-24,26-29 and 31* is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) *4,10,15,20,25 and 30* is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-3,5-9,11-14,16-19,21-24,26-29 and 31* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☒ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6)☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

Applicant has amended claims 1-3, 5-9, 11-14, 16-19, 21-24, 26-29, and 31 and canceled claims

4, 10, 15, 20, 25, and 30 therefore claims 1-3, 5-9, 11-14, 16-19, 21-24, 26-29, and 31 are now

pending.

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-3, 5-9, 11-14, 16-19, 21-24, 26-29, and 31

have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in
> section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are
> such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person
> having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the
> manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claim1-3, 5-9, 11-14, and 16 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

US Patent No. 5,699,170 to Yokose et al. in view of Saito.

Regarding claim 1, Yokose et al. teaches an image communication apparatus comprising:

means for reading an image and generating image data representing the image (column 2, lines

18-21); means for compressing the image data (column 9, lines 33-37) and storing the

compressed image data in memory (column 6, lines 59-63); and means for transmitting the

image data that has been stored in the memory (column 2, lines 35-37).

Yokose et al. does not teach means for adding transmission information for a header or footer onto the image data; means for compressing the image data onto which the transmission information has been added. Saito teaches means for adding transmission information for a header or footer onto the image data; means for compressing the image data onto which the transmission information has been added (Fig. 4 and column 2, lines 29-35 and column 5, lines 26-34 and 39-48). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the image communication apparatus of Yokose et al. by means for adding transmission information for a header or footer onto the image data; means for compressing the image data onto which the transmission information has been added because this decreases image transmission time by eliminating decompression and recompression before transmission.

Referring to claim 2, Yokose et al. teaches an image communication apparatus comprising: means for compressing the image data (column 9, lines 33-37) and storing the compressed image data in a memory (column 6, lines 59-63); and means for transmitting the image data that has been stored in the memory (column 2, lines 35-37).

Yokose et al. does not teach means for adding transmission information for a header or footer onto the image data; means for compressing the image data onto which the transmission information has been added. Saito teaches means for adding transmission information for a header or footer onto the image data; means for compressing the image data onto which the transmission information has been added (Fig. 4 and column 2, lines 29-35 and column 5, lines 26-34 and 39-48). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the image communication apparatus of Yokose et al. by

means for adding transmission information for a header or footer onto the image data; means for

compressing the image data onto which the transmission information has been added because

this decreases image transmission time by eliminating decompression and recompression before

transmission.

Regarding claim 3, Yokose et al. teaches an image communication apparatus comprising:

means for reading an image and successively storing image data representing the image in a

buffer (column 2, lines 18-21 and column 15, lines 58-63); means for extracting the image data

from the buffer in prescribed area units of the image; means for compressing the image data in

the area units and storing the compressed image data in memory (column 6, lines 59-63 and

column 9, lines 33-37); and means for transmitting the image data that has been stored in the

memory (column 2, lines 35-37).

Yokose et al. does not teach means for determining whether transmission information for

a header or footer is to be added onto each item of image data extracted; means for adding the

transmission information onto the image data that has been determined to have the transmission

information added thereto. Saito teaches means for determining whether transmission

information for a header or footer is to be added onto each item of image data extracted; means

for adding the transmission information onto the image data that has been determined to have the

transmission information added thereto (Fig. 4 and column 2, lines 29-35 and column 5, lines

26-34 and 39-48). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the

time the invention was made to modify the image communication apparatus of Yokose et al. by

means for determining whether transmission information for a header or footer is to be added

onto each item of image data extracted; means for adding the transmission information onto the

image data that has been determined to have the transmission information added thereto because this decreases image transmission time by eliminating decompression and recompression before transmission.

Regarding claim 5, Yokose et al. teaches an image communication apparatus comprising: means for reading an image and generating image data representing the image (column 2, lines 18-21); means for compressing the image data and storing the compressed image data in a memory (column 6, lines 59-63 and column 9, lines 33-37); and means for transmitting the image data that has been stored in the memory without expanding or compressing the image data (column 2, lines 35-37).

Yokose et al. does not teach means for adding transmission information for a header or footer onto the image data; means for compressing the image data onto which the transmission information has been added. Saito teaches means for adding transmission information for a header or footer onto the image data; means for compressing the image data onto which the transmission information has been added (Fig. 4 and column 2, lines 29-35 and column 5, lines 26-34 and 39-48). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the image communication apparatus of Yokose et al. by means for adding transmission information for a header or footer onto the image data; means for compressing the image data onto which the transmission information has been added because this decreases image transmission time by eliminating decompression and recompression before transmission.

Referring to claim 6, Yokose et al. teaches an image communication method comprising the steps of an image that has been read (column 2, line 26-28); compressing the image data and

storing the compressed image data in a memory (column 6, lines 59-63 and column 9, lines 33-37); and transmitting the image data that has been stored in the memory (column 2, lines 35-37).

Yokose et al. does not teach means for adding transmission information for a header or footer onto the image data; means for compressing the image data onto which the transmission information has been added. Saito teaches means for adding transmission information for a header or footer onto the image data; means for compressing the image data onto which the transmission information has been added (Fig. 4 and column 2, lines 29-35 and column 5, lines 26-34 and 39-48). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the image communication apparatus of Yokose et al. by means for adding transmission information for a header or footer onto the image data; means for compressing the image data onto which the transmission information has been added because this decreases image transmission time by eliminating decompression and recompression before transmission.

Regarding claim 7, Yokose et al. teaches an image communication method comprising the steps of image data that has been entered (column 2, line 26-28); compressing the image data and storing the compressed image data in memory (column 6, lines 59-63 and column 9, lines 33-37); and transmitting the image data that has been stored in the memory (column 2, lines 35-37).

Yokose et al. does not teach means for adding transmission information for a header or footer onto the image data; means for compressing the image data onto which the transmission information has been added. Saito teaches means for adding transmission information for a header or footer onto the image data; means for compressing the image data onto which the

transmission information has been added (Fig. 4 and column 2, lines 29-35 and column 5, lines 26-34 and 39-48). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the image communication apparatus of Yokose et al. by means for adding transmission information for a header or footer onto the image data; means for compressing the image data onto which the transmission information has been added because this decreases image transmission time by eliminating decompression and recompression before transmission.

Referring to claim 8, Yokose et al. teaches an image communication method comprising: a reading step, of reading an image and generating image data representing the image (column 2, lines 18-21); a storage step, of compressing the image data and storing the compressed image data in memory (column 6, lines 59-63 and column 9, lines 33-37); a transmitting step, of transmitting the image data that has been stored in the memory (column 2, lines 35-37).

Yokose et al. does not teach means for adding transmission information for a header or footer onto the image data; means for compressing the image data onto which the transmission information has been added. Saito teaches means for adding transmission information for a header or footer onto the image data; means for compressing the image data onto which the transmission information has been added (Fig. 4 and column 2, lines 29-35 and column 5, lines 26-34 and 39-48). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the image communication apparatus of Yokose et al. by means for adding transmission information for a header or footer onto the image data; means for compressing the image data onto which the transmission information has been added because

this decreases image transmission time by eliminating decompression and recompression before transmission.

Regarding claim 9, Yokose et al. teaches an image communication method comprising the steps of: reading an image and successively storing image data representing the image in a buffer (column 2, lines 18-21 and column 15, lines 58-63); extracting the image data from the buffer in prescribed area units of the image; compressing the image data in the area units and storing the compressed image data in a memory (column 6, lines 59-63 and column 9, lines 33-37); and transmitting the image data that has been stored in the memory (column 2, lines 35-37).

Yokose et al. does not teach means for determining whether transmission information for a header or footer is to be added onto each item of image data extracted; means for adding the transmission information onto the image data that has been determined to have the transmission information added thereto. Saito teaches means for determining whether transmission information for a header or footer is to be added onto each item of image data extracted; means for adding the transmission information onto the image data that has been determined to have the transmission information added thereto (Fig. 4 and column 2, lines 29-35 and column 5, lines 26-34 and 39-48). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the image communication apparatus of Yokose et al. by means for determining whether transmission information for a header or footer is to be added onto each item of image data extracted; means for adding the transmission information onto the image data that has been determined to have the transmission information added thereto because this decreases image transmission time by eliminating decompression and recompression before transmission.

Regarding claim 11, Yokose et al. teaches an image communication method comprising the step of image data representing an image that has been read (column 2, line 26-28); compressing the image data and storing the compressed image data in memory (column 6, lines 59-63 and column 9, lines 33-37); and transmitting the image data that has been stored in the memory without expanding or compressing the image data (column 2, lines 35-37).

Yokose et al. does not teach means for adding transmission information for a header or footer onto the image data; means for compressing the image data onto which the transmission information has been added. Saito teaches means for adding transmission information for a header or footer onto the image data; means for compressing the image data onto which the transmission information has been added (Fig. 4 and column 2, lines 29-35 and column 5, lines 26-34 and 39-48). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the image communication apparatus of Yokose et al. by means for adding transmission information for a header or footer onto the image data; means for compressing the image data onto which the transmission information has been added because this decreases image transmission time by eliminating decompression and recompression before transmission.

Referring to claim 12, Yokose et al. teaches a storage medium storing a program for causing a computer to function as the following means in an image communication apparatus in order to transmit image data: means for compressing the image data and storing the compressed image data in memory (column 6, lines 59-63 and column 9, lines 33-37); and means for transmitting the image data that has been stored in the memory (column 2, lines 35-37).

Yokose et al. does not teach means for adding transmission information for a header or footer onto the image data; means for compressing the image data onto which the transmission information has been added. Saito teaches means for adding transmission information for a header or footer onto the image data; means for compressing the image data onto which the transmission information has been added (Fig. 4 and column 2, lines 29-35 and column 5, lines 26-34 and 39-48). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the image communication apparatus of Yokose et al. by means for adding transmission information for a header or footer onto the image data; means for compressing the image data onto which the transmission information has been added because this decreases image transmission time by eliminating decompression and recompression before transmission.

Regarding claim13, Yokose et al. teaches a storage medium storing a program for causing a computer to function as the following means in an image communication apparatus in order to transmit image data that has been entered: means for compressing the image data and storing the compressed image data in memory (column 6, lines 59-63 and column 9, lines 33-37); and means for transmitting the image data that has been stored in the memory (column 2, lines 35-37).

Yokose et al. does not teach means for adding transmission information for a header or footer onto the image data; means for compressing the image data onto which the transmission information has been added. Saito teaches means for adding transmission information for a header or footer onto the image data; means for compressing the image data onto which the transmission information has been added (Fig. 4 and column 2, lines 29-35 and column 5, lines

26-34 and 39-48). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the image communication apparatus of Yokose et al. by means for adding transmission information for a header or footer onto the image data; means for compressing the image data onto which the transmission information has been added because this decreases image transmission time by eliminating decompression and recompression before transmission.

Referring to claim 14, Yokose et al. teaches a storage medium storing a program for causing a computer to function as the following means in an image communication apparatus, which has means for reading an image and successively storing image data representing the image in a buffer, in order to transmit the image data (column 2, lines 18-21 and column 15, lines 58-63): means for extracting the image data from the buffer in prescribed area units of the image; means for compressing the image data in the area units and storing the compressed image data in a memory (column 6, lines 59-63 and column 9, lines 33-37); and means for transmitting the image data that has been stored in the memory (column 2, lines 35-37).

Yokose et al. does not teach means for determining whether transmission information for a header or footer is to be added onto each item of image data extracted; means for adding the transmission information onto the image data that has been determined to have the transmission information added thereto. Saito teaches means for determining whether transmission information for a header or footer is to be added onto each item of image data extracted; means for adding the transmission information onto the image data that has been determined to have the transmission information added thereto (Fig. 4 and column 2, lines 29-35 and column 5, lines 26-34 and 39-48). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the

time the invention was made to modify the image communication apparatus of Yokose et al. by

means for determining whether transmission information for a header or footer is to be added

onto each item of image data extracted; means for adding the transmission information onto the

image data that has been determined to have the transmission information added thereto because

this decreases image transmission time by eliminating decompression and recompression before

transmission.

Referring to claim 16, Yokose et al. teaches a storage medium storing a program for

causing a computer to function as the following means in order to transmit image data that has

been entered: means for compressing the image data and storing the compressed image data in

memory (column 6, lines 59-63 and column 9, lines 33-37); and means for transmitting the

image data that has been stored in the memory without expanding or compressing the image data

(column 2, lines 35-37).

Yokose et al. does not teach means for adding transmission information for a header or

footer onto the image data; means for compressing the image data onto which the transmission

information has been added. Saito teaches means for adding transmission information for a

header or footer onto the image data; means for compressing the image data onto which the

transmission information has been added (Fig. 4 and column 2, lines 29-35 and column 5, lines

26-34 and 39-48). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the

time the invention was made to modify the image communication apparatus of Yokose et al. by

means for adding transmission information for a header or footer onto the image data; means for

compressing the image data onto which the transmission information has been added because

this decreases image transmission time by eliminating decompression and recompression before transmission.

1.   Claims 17-19, 21-24, 26-29, and 31   rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent No. 5,699,170 to Yokose et al. in view of Retter et al.

Regarding claim 17, Yokose et al. teaches an image communication apparatus comprising: means for reading an image and generating image data representing the image (column 2, lines 18-21); means for compressing the image data and adding on a marker; means for storing the compressed image data in memory (column 6, lines 59-63 and column 9, lines 33-37) and means for detecting the marker from the image data that has been stored in the memory (column 2, line 26-28 and column 13, lines 33-39 and column 14, lines 61-64).

Yokose et al. does not teach adding on a marker that is for adding on transmission information for a header or footer and replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the image data with data relating to transmission information. Retter et al. teaches adding on a marker that is for adding on transmission information for a header or footer and replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the image data with data relating to transmission information (Fig. 1 and column 1, lines 33-40 and column 4, lines 16-23 and 34-36 and 66-67). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the image communication apparatus of Yokose et al. by adding on a marker that is for adding on transmission information for a header or footer and replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the image data with data relating to transmission information because this decreases image transmission time by eliminating decompression and recompression before transmission.

Referring to claim 18, Yokose et al. teaches an image communication apparatus

comprising: means for compressing image data that has been entered and adding on a marker;

means for storing the compressed image data in memory (column 6, lines 59-63 and column 9,

lines 33-37); and means for detecting the marker from the image data that has been stored in the

memory (column 2, line 26-28 and column 13, lines 33-39 and column 14, lines 61-64).

Yokose et al. does not teach adding on a marker that is for adding on transmission

information for a header or footer and replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker

resides, some of the image data with data relating to transmission information. Retter et al.

teaches adding on a marker that is for adding on transmission information for a header or footer

and replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the image data with

data relating to transmission information (Fig.1 and column 1, lines 33-40 and column 4, lines

16-23 and 34-36 and 66-67). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the

art at the time the invention was made to modify the image communication apparatus of Yokose

et al. by adding on a marker that is for adding on transmission information for a header or footer

and replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the image data with

data relating to transmission information because this decreases image transmission time by

eliminating decompression and recompression before transmission.

Regarding claim 19, Yokose et al. teaches an image communication apparatus

comprising: means for reading an image and successively storing image data representing the

image in a buffer (column 2, lines 18-21 and column 15, lines 58-63); means for extracting the

image data from the buffer in prescribed area units of the image; means for compressing each

item of image data that has been extracted and adding on a marker; means for storing the

compressed image data in memory (column 6, lines 59-63 and column 9, lines 33-37); and

means for detecting the marker from the image data that has been stored in the memory, (column

2, line 26-28 and column 13, lines 33-39 and column 14, lines 61-64), which has been

compressed according to a compression format identical to the compression format of the image

data, and transmitting this image data (column 2, lines 35-37).

Yokose et al. does not teach adding on a marker that is for adding on transmission

information for a header or footer and replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker

resides, some of the image data with data relating to transmission information. Retter et al.

teaches adding on a marker that is for adding on transmission information for a header or footer

and replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the image data with

data relating to transmission information (Fig.1 and column 1, lines 33-40 and column 4, lines

16-23 and 34-36 and 66-67). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the

art at the time the invention was made to modify the image communication apparatus of Yokose

et al. by adding on a marker that is for adding on transmission information for a header or footer

and replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the image data with

data relating to transmission information because this decreases image transmission time by

eliminating decompression and recompression before transmission.

Regarding claim 21, Yokose et al. teaches an image communication apparatus

comprising: means for reading an image and generating image data representing the image

(column 2, lines 18-21); means for compressing the image data and adding on a marker; means

for storing the compressed image data in memory (column 6, lines 59-63 and column 9, lines 33-

37); and means for detecting the marker from the image data that has been stored in the memory,

(column 2, line 26-28 and column 13, lines 33-39 and column 14, lines 61-64), which has been compressed according to a compression format identical with the compression format of the image data, and transmitting this image data without expanding or compressing the image data (column 2, lines 35-37).

Yokose et al. does not teach adding on a marker that is for adding on transmission information for a header or footer and replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the image data with data relating to transmission information. Retter et al. teaches adding on a marker that is for adding on transmission information for a header or footer and replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the image data with data relating to transmission information (Fig. 1 and column 1, lines 33-40 and column 4, lines 16-23 and 34-36 and 66-67). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the image communication apparatus of Yokose et al. by adding on a marker that is for adding on transmission information for a header or footer and replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the image data with data relating to transmission information because this decreases image transmission time by eliminating decompression and recompression before transmission.

Referring to claim 22, Yokose et al. teaches an image communication method comprising the steps of: compressing image data that has been read and adding on a marker; storing the compressed image data in memory (column 6, lines 59-63 and column 9, lines 33-37); and detecting the marker from the image data that has been stored in the memory, (column 2, line 26-28 and column 13, lines 33-39 and column 14, lines 61-64).

Yokose et al. does not teach adding on a marker that is for adding on transmission information for a header or footer and replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the image data with data relating to transmission information. Retter et al. teaches adding on a marker that is for adding on transmission information for a header or footer and replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the image data with data relating to transmission information (Fig. 1 and column 1, lines 33-40 and column 4, lines 16-23 and 34-36 and 66-67). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the image communication apparatus of Yokose et al. by adding on a marker that is for adding on transmission information for a header or footer and replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the image data with data relating to transmission information because this decreases image transmission time by eliminating decompression and recompression before transmission.

Regarding claim 23, Yokose et al. teaches an image communication method comprising the steps of compressing image data that has been entered and adding on a marker; storing the compressed image data in memory (column 6, lines 59-63 and column 9, lines 33-37); and detecting the marker from the image data that has been stored in the memory, (column 2, line 26-28 and column 13, lines 33-39 and column 14, lines 61-64).

Yokose et al. does not teach adding on a marker that is for adding on transmission information for a header or footer and replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the image data with data relating to transmission information. Retter et al. teaches adding on a marker that is for adding on transmission information for a header or footer and replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the image data with

data relating to transmission information (Fig. 1 and column 1, lines 33-40 and column 4, lines 16-23 and 34-36 and 66-67). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the image communication apparatus of Yokose et al. by adding on a marker that is for adding on transmission information for a header or footer and replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the image data with data relating to transmission information because this decreases image transmission time by eliminating decompression and recompression before transmission.

Referring to claim 24, Yokose et al. teaches an image communication method comprising the steps of reading an image and successively storing image data representing the image in a buffer (column 2, lines 18-21 and column 15, lines 58-63); extracting the image data from the buffer in prescribed area units of the image; compressing each item of image data that has been extracted and adding on a marker; storing the compressed image data in memory (column 6, lines 59-63 and column 9, lines 33-37); and detecting the marker from the image data that has been stored in the memory (column 2, line 26-28 and column 13, lines 33-39 and column 14, lines 61-64).

Yokose et al. does not teach adding on a marker that is for adding on transmission information for a header or footer and replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the image data with data relating to transmission information. Retter et al. teaches adding on a marker that is for adding on transmission information for a header or footer and replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the image data with data relating to transmission information (Fig. 1 and column 1, lines 33-40 and column 4, lines 16-23 and 34-36 and 66-67). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the

art at the time the invention was made to modify the image communication apparatus of Yokose et al. by adding on a marker that is for adding on transmission information for a header or footer and replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the image data with data relating to transmission information because this decreases image transmission time by eliminating decompression and recompression before transmission.

Referring to claim 26, Yokose et al. teaches an image communication method comprising the steps of: compressing image data that has been read and adding on a marker; storing the compressed image data in memory (column 6, lines 59-63 and column 9, lines 33-37); and detecting the marker from the image data that has been stored in the memory, (column 2, line 26-28 and column 13, lines 33-39 and column 14, lines 61-64), and transmitting this image data without expanding or compressing it (column 2, lines 35-37).

Yokose et al. does not teach adding on a marker that is for adding on transmission information for a header or footer and replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the image data with data relating to transmission information. Retter et al. teaches adding on a marker that is for adding on transmission information for a header or footer and replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the image data with data relating to transmission information (Fig. 1 and column 1, lines 33-40 and column 4, lines 16-23 and 34-36 and 66-67). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the image communication apparatus of Yokose et al. by adding on a marker that is for adding on transmission information for a header or footer and replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the image data with

data relating to transmission information because this decreases image transmission time by eliminating decompression and recompression before transmission.

Regarding claim 27, Yokose et al. teaches an storage medium storing a program for causing a computer to function as the following means in an image communication apparatus in order to transmit image data: means for compressing the image data and adding on a marker; means for storing the compressed image data in memory (column 6, lines 59-63 and column 9, lines 33-37); and means for detecting the marker from the image data that has been stored in the memory (column 2, line 26-28 and column 13, lines 33-39 and column 14, lines 61-64).

Yokose et al. does not teach adding on a marker that is for adding on transmission information for a header or footer and replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the image data with data relating to transmission information. Retter et al. teaches adding on a marker that is for adding on transmission information for a header or footer and replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the image data with data relating to transmission information (Fig. 1 and column 1, lines 33-40 and column 4, lines 16-23 and 34-36 and 66-67). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the image communication apparatus of Yokose et al. by adding on a marker that is for adding on transmission information for a header or footer and replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the image data with data relating to transmission information because this decreases image transmission time by eliminating decompression and recompression before transmission.

Referring to claim 28, Yokose et al. teaches a storage medium storing a program for causing a computer to function as the following means in an image communication apparatus in

order to transmit image data that has been entered: means for compressing image data that has

been entered and adding on a marker; means for storing the compressed image data in memory

(column 6, lines 59-63 and column 9, lines 33-37); and means for detecting the marker from the

image data that has been stored in the memory (column 2, line 26-28 and column 13, lines 33-39

and column 14, lines 61-64).

Yokose et al. does not teach adding on a marker that is for adding on transmission

information for a header or footer and replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker

resides, some of the image data with data relating to transmission information. Retter et al.

teaches adding on a marker that is for adding on transmission information for a header or footer

and replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the image data with

data relating to transmission information (Fig. 1 and column 1, lines 33-40 and column 4, lines

16-23 and 34-36 and 66-67). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the

art at the time the invention was made to modify the image communication apparatus of Yokose

et al. by adding on a marker that is for adding on transmission information for a header or footer

and replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the image data with

data relating to transmission information because this decreases image transmission time by

eliminating decompression and recompression before transmission.

Regarding claim 29, Yokose et al. teaches a storage medium storing a program for

causing a computer to function as the following means in an image communication apparatus,

which has means for reading an image and successively storing image data representing the

image in a buffer (column 2, lines 18-21 and column 15, lines 58-63), in order to transmit the

image data: means for extracting the image data from the buffer in prescribed area units of the

image; means for compressing each item of image data that has been extracted and adding on a

marker; means for storing the compressed image data in memory (column 6, lines 59-63 and

column 9, lines 33-37); and means for detecting the marker from the image data that has been

stored in the memory (column 2, line 26-28 and column 13, lines 33-39 and column 14, lines 61-

64).

Yokose et al. does not teach adding on a marker that is for adding on transmission

information for a header or footer and replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker

resides, some of the image data with data relating to transmission information. Retter et al.

teaches adding on a marker that is for adding on transmission information for a header or footer

and replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the image data with

data relating to transmission information (Fig. 1 and column 1, lines 33-40 and column 4, lines

16-23 and 34-36 and 66-67). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the

art at the time the invention was made to modify the image communication apparatus of Yokose

et al. by adding on a marker that is for adding on transmission information for a header or footer

and replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the image data with

data relating to transmission information because this decreases image transmission time by

eliminating decompression and recompression before transmission.

Regarding claim 31, Yokose et al. teaches a storage medium storing a program for

causing a computer to function as the following means in an image communication apparatus in

order to transmit image data: means for compressing the image data and adding on a marker;

means for storing the compressed image data in memory (column 6, lines 59-63 and column 9,

lines 33-37); and means for detecting the marker from the image data that has been stored in the

memory (column 2, line 26-28 and column 13, lines 33-39 and column 14, lines 61-64), and transmitting this image data without expanding or compressing it (column 2, lines 35-37).

Yokose et al. does not teach adding on a marker that is for adding on transmission information for a header or footer and replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the image data with data relating to transmission information. Retter et al. teaches adding on a marker that is for adding on transmission information for a header or footer and replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the image data with data relating to transmission information (Fig. 1 and column 1, lines 33-40 and column 4, lines 16-23 and 34-36 and 66-67). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the image communication apparatus of Yokose et al. by adding on a marker that is for adding on transmission information for a header or footer and replacing, on the basis of a position at which the marker resides, some of the image data with data relating to transmission information because this decreases image transmission time by eliminating decompression and recompression before transmission.

Conclusion

2.   The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The following patent is cited to further show the state of the art with respect to image communication apparatus' in general:

US Pat No. 5,751,449 to Nobuta.

US Pat No. 5,594,554 to Farkash et al.

3.   Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this

Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** See MPEP § 706.07(a).

Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE

MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO

MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after

the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period

will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37

CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event,

however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this

final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to April L Baugh whose telephone number is 703-305-5317. The

examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:30am-5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Rupal D Dharia can be reached on 703-305-4003. The fax phone number for the

organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent

Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications

may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished

applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR

system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR

system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

ALB

RUPAL DHARIA
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER